

INCOMING

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLASSIFIED

CABLEGRAM

Cable 1684

ACTION:  
STOSELReed: August 13, 1961  
2:49 AM

INFO:

MIN FROM: ATHENS

MINECON NO: 22, AUGUST 12, 8 PM

POL 5 ULMER ACTION DEPT PRATT 258 INFO PARIS PRATT 22 AIRWAR 19  
SHAPEL USDCOLANDSCUTNEAST JENNER, MOSCOW 12

EUQOL

MAS

PRIO RITE

MAAG

USISF

Paris for StoSEL and Maagire

H 1

CINCMUR

EF

1. Recognizing that Checkmate III must soon be scheduled definitely, or abandoned, I met this afternoon with Head Jusmog, armed service attaches or other chancery advisors to canvass situation.

ACTION:

POL

INFO:

OES

2. My military colleagues unanimous in believing cancellation Checkmate would have adverse effect.

ECON

DEF 11

PAA

4. However, it is my estimate that holding exercise in form originally planned may now be seized upon and misrepresented by Bulgarians and/or Soviet bloc as threatening or aggressive gesture "deliberately made to increase tensions", which would provide Khrushchev with first rate opportunity throw another violent fit, should he desire do so. Closeness of area to Bulgarian frontier and somewhat spectacular nature of operation might lend some color to this.

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SECRET

27  
DECLASSIFIED WITH DELAY  
Agency Case 5071 802935  
NLE Case 25-3974  
NLE Date 7/26/65  
By [Signature]FBI - PARIS  
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## Secularism

6. Purpose this message primarily inform addressees that further Soviet explosion may well occur if exercise is held. That publicity has already taken place (Emblet 250) is now an additional factor. I am not competent to judge whether exercise might be shifted less sensitive area (Crete for instance) or held without US battle group participation.

BRIGGS

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vc